[Mr. L. H. Jacob.]

the Ryots' Road rules, Government would then consider the necessity for providing the masonry work and taking the road over for maintenance.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*) : May I know whether an estimate of the road has been prepared ?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : Only a rough estimate has been prepared and not a detailed estimate.

Settlement Memorandum.

11.* **MR. K. R. ELENKATH** (*Kalkulam I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) when was the officer appointed for the preparation of the Settlement Memorandum ;

(*b*) whether the Government desire to know the opinion of the land-owners on the subject and, if so, whether they have given instructions to the Settlement Officer to consult land-owners in different parts of the State with varying fertility and local conditions ; and

(*c*) whether the Dewan intends calling together the land-owners to know their opinion with regard to the new settlement, as during the last settlement the then Dewan Hon'ble Mr. Rama Aiyangar did on 23rd March 1883 ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The Special Officer was appointed from the 10th Edavom 1108.

(*b*) and (*c*) These will arise for consideration only after the Special Officer's scheme is received by Government.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : The Chief Secretary says that only after the Special Officer's scheme has been received Government will desire to know the opinion of the landowners. What I want to know is whether it is according to the memorandum to be prepared that Government will arrange for all that.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Not necessarily.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : Does not the member think that, if these things were considered earlier, it will be more proper, profitable and advantageous ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : We must first know the lines on which the memorandum will be before we can say whether it is acceptable or not.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know whether the Government have given any directions or instructions to the Special Officer for the preparation of the memorandum ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes; there is a G. O. on the subject which has been published in the *Gazette*. The Special Officer has been given instructions on the work that he has to do.

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MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know from the member whether a staff also is necessary for formulating the principles of the scheme?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He has to do a good deal of work and a staff is necessary.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Is he carrying on any investigation in regard to that?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, he has to do some investigation.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): ഇതൊരു പെർമനൻറ് സെറിൽമെൻറ് (Permanent Settlement) ആക്കണൊ വേണ്ടയൊ എന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഗവണ്മെൻറാലോചിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): ഇല്ല.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ സെറിൽമെൻറുകൊണ്ടു കരം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറു വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): അതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു യാതൊരു ഇൻസ്ട്രക്ഷനും സ്പെഷ്യലാഫീസക്കു കൊടുത്തിട്ടില്ല.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): പുതിയ സെറിൽമെൻറുകൊണ്ടു ഗവണ്മെൻറു കരം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): കരം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നൊ കുറയ്ക്കണമെന്നൊ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഇതേവരെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിട്ടില്ല.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു യാതൊന്നും ആലോചിക്കാതെ സെറിൽമെൻറു മെമ്മൊറാണ്ടം തയ്യാറാക്കാൻ ഏർപ്പാടു ചെയ്തിരിക്കയാണോ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) മെമ്മൊറാണ്ടം തയ്യാറാക്കികിട്ടുമ്പോൾ പലസംഗതികളും ശരിപ്പെടുത്തേണ്ടതായിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതെല്ലാം ആലോചിക്കാനാണു് മെമ്മൊറാണ്ടം തയ്യാറാക്കുന്നതു്. അതു് ജി. ഒ. വിൽതന്നെ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുമുണ്ടു്.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): ഈ സെറിൽമെൻറിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിച്ചപ്പോൾ അന്നത്തെ കൗൺസിലിൽ ഇതിനെസംബന്ധിച്ചു ഗവണ്മെൻറു വല്ലതും പ്രതിവാദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): ഓർമ്മയില്ല.

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MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know whether the Government intend postponing the Settlement operations at least until economic depression is over?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That question does not arise now. We are at present only preparing a memorandum on the principles and the plan of the Settlement.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Am I to understand that the Settlement proper is not to continue after the Settlement Memorandum?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The whole question will be considered after the memorandum is submitted.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*): May I know whether it is the idea of the Government to start a re-settlement soon after the Report?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say that it will be soon after. Government have an idea of starting re-settlement because, in many of the taluks it is over-due. But *when* it will be started has not been decided yet.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): May I know whether it is the object of the settlement to increase taxation or to reduce it?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is not known now.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): What other object is intended to be served by this investigation?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have not decided either way.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): It cannot be neither? It must be either.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It cannot be neither.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): May I know whether the academic questions about re-settlement will also be considered?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, so far as they relate to the solution of practical problems.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Is it not necessary that the re-settlement should be postponed?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is a question of opinion. Opinions might differ.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): In view of the economic depression in the State, is it not necessary to postpone the re-settlement?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is, as I

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already said, a question of opinion.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Is it proposed to embody the principles of the Land Revenue Settlement in a statute?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Government will consider that.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the Government feel any necessity to change the principles of taxation adopted in the last settlement?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have no such detailed idea of it. Some instructions have been issued to the Special Officer. If the member wants, I shall read them.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): I would like to know what they are?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The work of the Special Officer will relate to reporting on the following:—

(1) Preparation of correct and up-to-date field maps.

(2) Revision of territorial limits and re-arrangement of Taluks and *pakuthies*.

(3) The adoption of a uniform commutation rate for the tax on wet lands throughout the State in view of the varying rates of commutation for different proportions of wet land tax.

(4) Equalisation of assessment *i. e.*, the classification of soils and ascertainment of the relative fertility and actual yield.

(5) Simplification of land tenures with special reference to the feasibility of charging absolute free-holds with a small quit rent and of the enhancement of *Rajabhogam* leviable on *jenmom* lands and the assessment of *Devaswom* and *Brahmaswom Tanatu* lands even in the hands of the *Jenmies*.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): So may I know from Government whether they propose to make a change in the principle of taxation from the produce to the kind of land?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No definite answer can be given to that now. We must wait until the Special Officer's views on the subject are received.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know whether the changing of the system of taxation is within the scope of the G. O. issued to the Special Officer?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No. He has not been asked to report on that point. That is a matter which will be considered by the Government.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): In due course?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): How many years did it take last time to complete the settlement, approximately?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Between 20 and 25 years.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): Will it take an equally long time now?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It is hoped not.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : May I know the causes which led to the idea of the preparation of the Settlement Memorandum now?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It is long overdue. It has been under consideration for a long time. I believe the Retrenchment Committee made a reference to it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : I wish to know whether there was a requisition from the public to start a new settlement?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The Financial Secretary has made a definite statement about that. He has stated that it was pressed at successive sessions of the Assembly and Council.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know which are the sessions of the Assembly and the Council at which this matter was pressed?

PRESIDENT : No, Mr. Asan.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether the idea of re-settlement was opposed unanimously in the Assembly?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I do not recollect.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : May I know whether the times are financially normal to start a re-settlement.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Times are not financially normal. But we are only at the preparation of a memorandum.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : Then, am I to know that the memorandum will be based on observation?

PRESIDENT : I think it is verging on a discussion.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : If that is the only ground, then I can pursue my question. But if it is not relevant then I shall resume my seat.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*) : പുതിയ കണ്ടെഴുത്തു വേണോ വേണ്ടയോ എന്നു തീരുമാനിക്കുന്നതിനുമുമ്പായി പൊതുജനങ്ങളുടെ അഭിപ്രായം എടുക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു ഭാവമുണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : മെമ്മൊറാണ്ടം കയ്യിൽകിട്ടിയശേഷമേ പിന്നീടുള്ള ആലോചനകൾ നടക്കയൊള്ളൂ. അപ്പോൾ അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കാം.

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